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all p'sons are to abstaine from servile work and labour that day, given under my hand and ye Seale of ye Collony ye 24th day of Ap^l anno. Dom., 1691.

ffr. NICHOLSON.

To the Sheriffe of Midd^x County his Deputy.

A Violation of a Tobacco Planting Law, 1691.

(From the Virginia State Archives.)

Dan'l Wade's Petition to be relieved from p't of fine imposed for infraction of tobacco law relative to tobacco plants, 1691.

To the Rt. Hono^{ble} Francis Nicholson, Esq^r, their Maj^{ties} Lieut. Go^r of Virg^a.

Dan'l Wade humbly presenteth:

That yo^r pet^r haveing Lived in this Colony about 35 y^{rs} alwaies observed it to be constant practice of all planters while Tob^o was small, in weeding, where a plant was wanting, to supply the place by takeing one out of a hill that had two, and yo^r pet^r never hearing of any Law to the Contrary did the like this last Summer, for which he, at a Court held for Surry County the 19th of this Instant, Jan^{ry}, upon the Information of a malicious Neighbour was fined ten thousand pds. of tob^o, according to a late Act in that case made and provided.

And for that yo^r pet^r fault was only thro' Ignorance & not out of any Contempt of Authority, haveing the last day of June Cutting all his Tobacco plants growing in beds that he might thereby manifest his obedience to the Law. Hee most humbly Implores yo^r Hono^r favourable Consideration of his offence and to remitt that part of his fine due to their Ma^{ty}, viz^t 5,000^{lb} of Tobacco.

And yo^r pet^r and in Duty bound shall Ever pray, &c.

[This petition has been thought worthy of insertion, as showing something of the methods of tobacco planting in the 17th century. The date must have been between October, 1690, and

October, 1692. The act referred to was passed March 23, 1661-2, re-enacted October, 1686, and in part repealed September, 1696. The clause violated was that which forbade planting or replanting after June 1st, under a penalty of 10,000 pounds tobacco.]

**Petition of Edmund Jenings, Attorney-General, for
Increase of Salary, 1692.**

(From Virginia State Archives.)

To his Excellency Francis, Lord Howard of Effingham, his Maj'tie Lieut. and Gover^{nr} Gen'l of Virg^a, & ye Hon^{ble} Councill of State.

Edmund Jenings, His Maj^{ty} Attorney Gen^l, Most humbly sheweth:

That in the yeare 1680 yo^r Petition^r was appointed ever since and hath had the Honour to officiate in the quality aforesaid ever since, in the beginning of which time & till late little business of moment or consequence did offer or occur on the Crowne side, soe that yo^r Petition^{rs} continuall attendance not requisite or expected at the gen^l Courts which your Petition^r conceives to be some reason of ye small salary allowed yo^r Petition^r in the quality aforesaid.

But whereas since the arrivall of his Excellency into this Dominion the Employment of yo^r Petition^r in the quality afores^d hath much encreased by reason of the Strict Inquiry & inspection of ye Breach & ye due execution of ye Laws & thereby yo^r Petition^{rs} dayly or continuall attendance on yo^r Excellency & Hon^{rs} is required, & whereas Severall Causes on the behalf of his Ma^{tye} is prosecuted without fee & divers Indictm^{ts} proceeded upon ag^t severall offenders w^{ch} are insolvent, for w^{ch} the Assembly formerly used to allow & pay & discharge the same but of late rejected by them altho' for his Ma^{tye} & Country's Service.

Wherefore yo^r Petition^r (with all due Submission) most humbly Prays yo^r Excellency & Hon^{rs} to take the premises into yo^r most Serious Consideration, and so make such additionall allowance as shall be thought fitt & that yo^r Excellency & Hon^{rs}